

What Was It Like, Mr. Emperor? Life in China's Forbidden City

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What Was It like, Mr. Emperor? is a fascinating book that details the life of royalty in dynastic China. Focusing primarily on the Ming and Qing dynasties, the book offers a glimpse into the Forbidden City and discusses the responsibilities and expectations that emperors and their families dealt with. Simple color illustrations highlight key points and help to create a portrait of an often difficult and even dangerous life, quite different from the life one might expect royalty to lead. The book is written for children ages 8 to 12, but is appropriate for anyone with an interest in Chinese culture and history.

CATHERINE REED-THURESON (Spring 2016)

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